(c) whether Government are aware that cold and heat waves have become a regular phenomena in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of Orissa had reported sometime back deaths due to heat wave. However, no report has been received from the State Government regarding deaths due to cold wave. According to the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC), which had made recommendations relating to Calamity Relief for the 5 year period 2000-01 to 2004-05, heat/cold wave has not been included in the list of natural calamities, to be eligible for assistance from Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/ National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

(c) and (d) It is for the Government of Orissa to take appropriate measures in the matter.

Integrated Development of Roots and Tubers in Gujarat

2068. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the Central Scheme of Integrated Development of Roots and Tubers in Gujarat; and

(b) since when the scheme is under implementation in the State and what results have been achieved, so far, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A Central Scheme on Integrated Development of Vegetables which includes Roots and Tuber crops was implemented in the country including Gujarat, during 9th Plan. However, since October, 2000 the scheme has been subsumed in the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Macro Management of Agriculture—Supplementation/ Complementation of States' efforts through Work Plans. The programmes of the scheme can now be implemented by the State through Work Plans. Under this scheme the states have greater flexibility to prioritise its needs as per the requirement of the State.

(b) The Scheme has been in implementation during 9th Plan period. Under the scheme a Bio- Centre for production of True Potato seed in Gujarat has been established at DEESA, Research Centre of Gujarat Agriculture University. Availability of true Potato seed has helped increase production of Potato in the States.

Besides, Central Government is implementing scheme during 2001-2002 on integrated development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly areas under which a project with an outlay of Rs. 147.29 lakhs has been sanctioned for implementation in DAHOD and PANCHMAHAL District of Gujarat. The scheme includes Root and Tuber crops.

The state Government of Gujarat is implementing scheme on Root and Tuber Crops for which an outlay of Rs. 10.56 lakhs has been made for the year 2001-2002 for transfer of Technology, Training of Farmers and adoption of Integrated Pest Management etc. in growing Root and Tuber crops.

Reviewing Agricultural Subsidies

2069. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how far the agricultural subsidies provided by the Central Government have benefited the farming community *vis-a-vis* agricultural sector as a whole;

(b) whether Government propose to review the same and plan for providing WTO compatible subsidies to agricultural products;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when such subsidies are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The agricultural subsidies provided by the Central Govt. have benefited substantially the agricultural sector and the farming community. However, it is not feasible to quantify such benefits. The subsidies being provided are compatible with WTO.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

MSP for Crops

†2070. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to fix Minimum Support Price for major crops as per the market trend;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.